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(703) 816-**FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**
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FACSIMILE OPERATOR

Per our preliminary telephone interview of this morning, I have attached my
argument regarding Verlag and a sketch of the Verlag structure.
Michelle N. Lester**CONFIDENTIALITY NOTE**

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REMARKS FOR TELEPHONE INTERVIEW

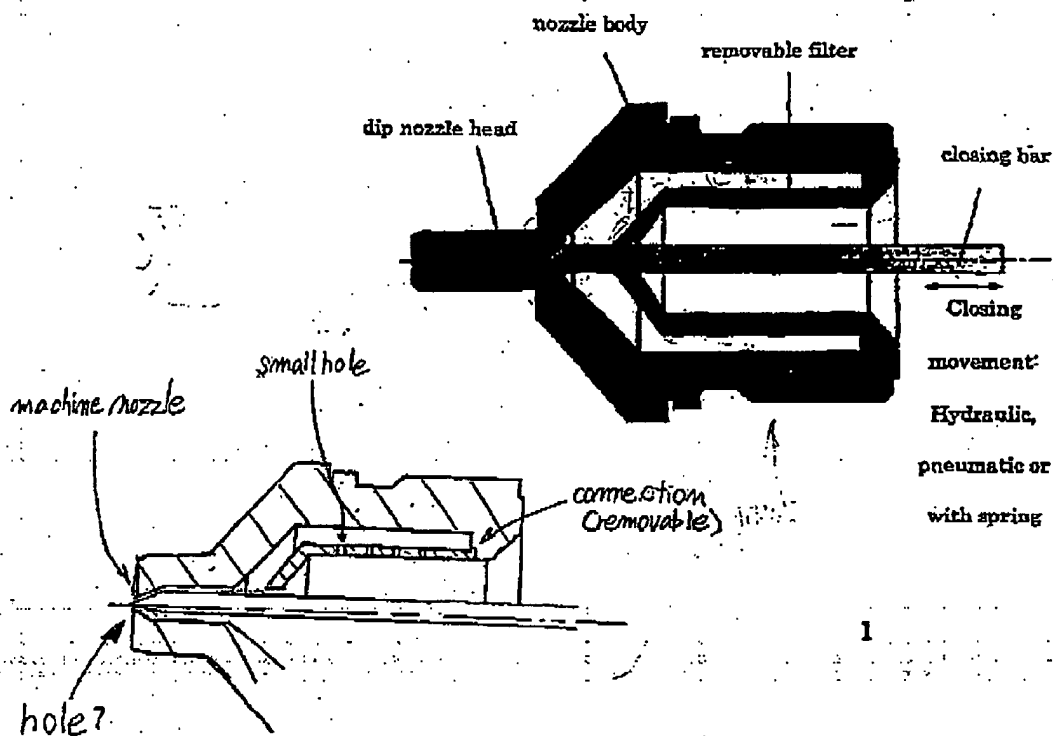
According to Verlag, the holes have a total section that is larger than that of the "hole of the machine nozzle" for minimizing pressure loss at a high velocity of supplying the solution. However, Verlag does not describe or depict where the "hole of the machine nozzle" is. It is respectfully submitted that the skilled artisan would not literally associate the recited "hole of the machine nozzle" with the tubular fluid passage (donut shape) defined between the filter section and the nozzle body. In Verlag, the "hole of the machine nozzle" would apparently be the gap between a tip end of the closing bar and the dip nozzle head on the left side of the cited figure, or the diameter of the passage in the dip nozzle head itself. In either case, the "hole of the machine nozzle" is clearly remote from the tubular fluid passage and there is no teaching or suggestion in Verlag of a particular relation between the cross-section of the tubular fluid passage in Verlag and the summation of the cross-sectional areas of the holes in the filter section.

In this respect, the Examiner's analysis of Verlag is respectfully submitted to be flawed. For example, after noting that Verlag teaches that the total section of the small holes is larger than that of the hole of the machine nozzle, the Examiner asserts that "since the cross-section of the gap [tubular passage] is smaller at each point along the filter section than the bore hole (nozzle opening), the gap is certainly smaller than the total of the hole openings". However, the Examiner has no support for this allegation because the bore hole (nozzle opening) is not identified in Verlag. Therefore, this conclusion is pure conjecture. Indeed, in the cited Verlag reference, the cross-sections of the machine nozzle, the removable filter and the closing bar are all entirely blacked out. The structure of Verlag is obscured and it is impossible to determine from Verlag's disclosure or drawing what is considered to be the "hole of the machine nozzle".

Applicant has attached a sketch of a possible configuration of the Verlag machine nozzle. It is unclear if the hole, as noted above, is the gap between the tip end of the

closing bar and the dip nozzle head on the left side of the figure or the diameter of the passage in the dip nozzle head itself. In either case, that nozzle hole is clearly remote from the tubular fluid passage around the filter and it cannot be determined with certainty what relation exists between its cross-sectional area and the cross-sectional area of the tubular passage. However, measuring from the drawings, the cross-section of the hole of the nozzle would appear to be about the same as or smaller than that of the closing bar, which would be much smaller than that of the tubular passage (donut around the filter). Thus, the relation between the nozzle hole and the filter holes has no bearing on and does not teach a relationship between the cross-section of the tubular passage and the filter holes.

Because Verlag clearly does not provide any characterization of the location of the hole of the machine nozzle and in view of the way in which "hole" is normally understood, it is respectfully submitted that Verlag does not teach or suggest the relation between the tubular fluid passage and the holes in the filter section as recited in applicant's claims 1 and 11. It is therefore respectfully submitted that claims 1, 11 and the claims dependent therefrom are not anticipated by nor obvious from Isozumi taken alone or in combination with Verlag.



By using this closing nozzle with a melt filter, it is especially expected to supply the solution at high velocity.